



Notice of Allowance dated 2/11/2005

Appl. No. 10/652,022

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance dated 3-16-2005

Attorney Docket No. 1217-031712

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/652,022 Confirmation No. 9663
Applicants : Tokio Shibazaki et al.
Filed : August 29, 2003
Title : Automatic Banding Packing Machine
Group Art Unit : 3721
Examiner : Sameh H. Tawfik
Customer No. : 28289

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicants wish to comment upon the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included in the Notice of Allowability dated February 11, 2005 in the above application. The Examiner states as follows:

"The prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the combination of the claimed banding method as amended and supported by the reasons provided in the remarks of the amendment filed on 12/28/2004.

In particular, the prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed banding method comprising the steps of detecting an amount of a pull-back portion of the rear end of the band which been (sic) pulled back by pull back means, wherein a rotation of a cam shaft is temporarily stopped based on a signal and whereby timing of pressing the rear end of the bad (sic) by a middle presser member which is operated by means of heater is delayed in a predetermined time, in the claim environment (Figs. 6 and 9)."

In the second paragraph, line 3 as set forth above, "which been" should read --which has been--. In line 5 of the second paragraph, "bad" should read --band--. In line 6 of the second paragraph, "means of heater" should read --means of a heater--.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 16, 2005.

Diane Paull

(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Diane Paull

Signature

3/16/2005

Date

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In addition, Applicants disagree with the Examiner's statement that the rear presser member "is operated by means of a heater". Rather, the middle presser member is operated after melting of the superposing portion of the band (by means of the heater) by a predetermined time delay.

Entry of these Comments in the file history of the instant application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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